

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 952

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Gilbert DeRieux Pickel
of Kingston.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the passing of Gilbert DeRieux Pickel; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel was an exemplary public servant and consummate
professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in
numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in the family home on Pickel Farm Road on May 12, 1927, Mr. Pickel
was the youngest child and only son of James Gilbert Pickel and Eva DeRieux Pickel; he was
the grandson of James Ebenezer and Catherine Stowe Pickel and Frederick Peter DeRieux and
Mollie Sexton DeRieux; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel honorably served his country as a member of the United
States Navy during World War II; when he returned home, he worked in sales with the Browder
Farm Stores in Harriman and Lenoir City and later became a maintenance foreman at the K-33
building at Union Carbide; and

WHEREAS, desiring to work for himself, Mr. Pickel left Oak Ridge in 1955 to open Pickel
Shell Service Center and Wrecker Service on Race Street in Kingston; five years later, he
purchased an interest in Peggy Ann Truck Stop in Rockwood and later added Peggy Ann
Repair and Wrecker Service; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel began oversight of the construction of the Holiday Inn in
Harriman in 1966, and he was its innkeeper for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, Mr. Pickel and George Standridge formed G and G Builders and
Pickel Realty in Harriman; Mr. Pickel took great pride in the 160 homes, two motels, apartments,

and mini-warehouse building that the company built before his retirement at the age of seventy-five; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Roane-Anderson Economic Council, Gilbert Pickel was a founding member and director of the Home Builders Association of Roane County and served on the boards of Hamilton Bank of Roane County, Bank of Roane County, and Union Planters Bank; he retired from the board of Regions Bank after more than twenty years of service; and

WHEREAS, past president of the Walden's Ridge Antique Car Club, Mr. Pickel was a 32nd degree Mason with more than fifty years of service to Union Lodge #38 in Kingston, and he was a lifetime member of Kerbela Shrine Temple in Knoxville with more than fifty years of service to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. He was captain of the Roane Shrine Motor Patrol and the Roane Shrine Dune Buggy Club; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Linda Bryant Pickel, and was the proud father of James William "Jim" Pickel; he was the devoted grandfather of Robert Wyatt Pickel and Mary Lynn Pickel Huett and the treasured great-grandfather of Alexander Wyatt Pickel, Katherine Isabel Pickel, and James Parker Huett; and

WHEREAS, he is lovingly remembered by his good friend and sidekick Mike Foust and his nephews Charles William "Bill" Inman and Samuel Gilbert Inman; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Mary Jo "Jodie" Pickel; his parents and grandparents; his sisters, Eva Jeanette P. Inman, Margaret P. Hood, and Louise Pickel; and his nephews David R. Hood and Alan E. Hood; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Pickel leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Gilbert DeRieux Pickel, reflecting fondly upon his

impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Pickel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.